

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
POPULATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 18, 2001  
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

|   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| George Pettit, Gilbert, Chairman          | *Karen Shurko, Goodyear          |
| Nathan Crane, Avondale                    | *Horatio Skeete, Litchfield Park |
| Joe Blanton, Buckeye                      | Tom Ellsworth, Mesa              |
| *Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek              | Shiloh Johnson, Maricopa County  |
| Bob Pazera, Chandler                      | Linda Charron, Peoria            |
| Rene Romero, El Mirage                    | Remy Autz, Phoenix               |
| Jesse Drake, Fountain Hills               | Tracy Korman, Queen Creek        |
| Terry Yergan, Gila River Indian Community | Harry Higgins, Scottsdale        |
| *Ralph Vasquez, Gila Bend                 | Rosalinda Herrera, Surprise      |
| *Kate Langford, Glendale                  | Mark Elma, Tempe                 |
| *Duncan Miller, Paradise Valley           | *Jerry Stricklin, Wickenburg     |
|   | *Dick Gregory, Youngtown         |

\*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

|                         |                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| San Andrea, Chandler    | Tim Tilton, Phoenix                  |
| Randy Booze, Mesa       | Howard Ward, Terra Systems Southwest |
| Tony Chinyere, Surprise | Rita Walton, MAG                     |
| Tim Delaney, InfoTech   | Harry Wolfe, MAG                     |
| Ann McCracken, RPTA     |                                      |

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Pettit at 1:35 p.m.

2. Call to the Audience

There were no requests from the audience to address the MAG POPTAC.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 2, 2000

It was moved by seconded by Harry Higgins, seconded by Bob Pazera and unanimously recommended to approve the meeting minutes of November 2, 2000.

4. Building Permit Completion Status Report

Harry Wolfe noted that building permit completions for the quarter ending December 31, 2000 are due on February 1, 2001. He asked member agencies to forward any outstanding permit completions to MAG as soon as possible.

Mr. Wolfe explained that in response to a MAG POPTAC request, staff is also transmitting a table showing the lag times between the issuance of building permits and the construction of the unit by jurisdiction and year.

5. Status Report on Census 2000

Harry Wolfe mentioned that on December 28, 2000, the Census Bureau released 2000 population counts by state that is used for Congressional Reapportionment. He said the Arizona population count for April 1, 2000 of 5,130,632 was higher than anticipated and that if Maricopa County retained its share of the state population it would have about 3,027,000 residents as of April 1, 2000. This is substantially higher than the 2,991,275 that was estimated for July 1, 2000.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Census Bureau has established two new Census Designated Places in Maricopa County: New River and Rio Verde. Census counts of total population and population over 18 by race/ethnicity down to the block level will be released sometime in March 2001.

6. American Fact Finder

Harry Wolfe noted that the American Fact Finder is a website developed by the Census Bureau to enable interested parties to retrieve Census data from the Internet. Remy Autz commented that on January 23-25, 2001 the Census Bureau will be holding a training session on the American Fact Finder Website in Phoenix. Harry Wolfe mentioned that although the training classes are currently full, there may be future opportunities to attend such classes. Remy Autz described some supplemental training classes that Phoenix would be giving for grant writers and other interested parties.

7. The Future of the Special Census Program

Harry Wolfe stated that with the completion of Census 2000, MAG is examining the potential for conducting a Special Census in 2005; and that such a Census would cost about \$24 million to carry out if it were undertaken in the same manner as in the past.

Mr. Wolfe added that MAG staff had been invited by the Census Bureau to send a representative to a focus group in Washington, D.C. on the Special Census Program. The Bureau is currently considering the future of the Special Census and is seeking input from its major customers on its effectiveness. Subsequently the Bureau will be making a decision on the future of the Special Census including modifying the methods used to carry it out or discontinuing it.

8. Standards for Metropolitan and Micropolitan Areas

Harry Wolfe reported that on December 27, 2000 a notice was published in the Federal Register which announced the Office of Management and Budget's adoption of standards for defining Metropolitan and Micropolitan Areas. He added that these new standards replace and supersede the 1990 standards for defining Metropolitan Areas.

9. MAG GIS and Database Enhancement Project

Harry Wolfe reported that MAG is undertaking a GIS and Database Enhancement Project to establish the base from which a new set of socioeconomic projections will be developed. He introduced Howard Ward who gave a presentation explaining a process for reviewing the street centerline file.

Terry Yergan expressed concern over undercounts of population on the Gila River Indian Community, especially since the community straddles two counties: Maricopa and Pinal. He also indicated that the Gila River Indian Community did not have a regular street addressing system. MAG staff and consultants indicated that they would work with the Gila River Indian Community on these issues.

10. Date of Next Meeting

George Pettit stated that the next meeting of the MAG POPTAC should be shown as scheduled for Thursday, February 15, 2001 at 1:30 p.m.

